

Message Text

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ORIGIN EPA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CEQ-01 OES-03 NSF-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 EB-07 COA-01 ERDA-05

HUD-01 INT-05 HEW-02 DOTE-00 CG-00 COME-00 AGR-05

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P 252129Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SENV, UR

SUBJECT:ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT; PROJECT II-1.3; EFFECTS
OF POLLUTANTS ON AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

1. ON FEBRUARY 14 DR. BUCKLEY RECEIVED FOLLOWING COMMERCIAL
CABLE FROM DEPUTY MINISTER SHTEPKA: "GROUP FIVE SOVIET
SPECIALISTS PROJECT II-3 EFFECTS POLLUTANTS AQUATIC SYSTEMS
READY TO LEAVE FOR US STARTING MARCH 22 TAKE PART JOINT
SYMPOSIUM STOP WE SHALL APPRECIATE INFORMATION FINAL DATE
OF VISIT STOP RESPECTFULLY YOURS."

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2. FYI: ALTHOUGH DECEMBER MEMORANDUM OF JOINT COMMITTEE CALLS FOR SYMPOSIUM TO BE HELD IN FIRST QUARTER THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SYMPOSIUM OF WHICH SCICOUNS SHOULD BE AWARE:

A) OVER TIME SOVIETS HAVE CHANGED THEIR INTERESTS, NECESSITATING CONTINUING REORGANIZATION ON U.S. SIDE;
B) FOLLOWING UNILATERAL LAST-MINUTE POSTPONEMENT BY SOVIETS OF JANUARY VISIT, U.S. SIDE HAS DIFFICULTIES IN CONVINCING INDUSTRIAL AND ACADEMIC PARTICIPANTS TO AGREE TO NEW DATE;
C) SOVIET LEADERSHIP ON PROJECT HAS SHIFTED; PERSON SUPPOSED TO BE RESPONSIBLE WAS "ILL" DURING JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING WHEN DR. BUCKLEY WAS IN MOSCOW, AND HIS STAND-IN WAS UNABLE TO CARRY DISCUSSIONS OR MAKE FIRM COMMITMENTS; AND
D) U.S. SIDE HAS HAD OWN PROBLEMS ARISING FROM REORGANIZATION OF EPA OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. THUS, THERE HAS BEEN SLIPPAGE, INCLUDING NON-RESPONSE TO DEPUTY MINISTER SHTEPA'S LETTER OF JANUARY 16 WHICH WAS FIRST INDICATION THAT SOVIETS WOULD WANT TO COME IN MARCH.

END FYI.

3. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST EMBASSY TRANSMIT FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO B. G. SHTEPA, DEPUTY MINISTER OF RECLAMATION AND WATER MANAGEMENT, ORLIKOV PEREULOK 1/11, MOSCOW, WITH COPY TO KUVSHINNIKOV: "DEAR MR. MINISTER: I VERY MUCH REGRET THAT PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE REORGANIZATION OF EPA'S OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT HAVE LED TO THIS DELAY IN RESPONDING TO YOUR PROPOSAL THAT THE SYMPOSIUM ON "EFFECTS OF POLLUTANTS ON AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS" BE HELD BEGINNING IN LATE MARCH. AS WE ARE BOTH AWARE, THIS PROJECT HAS HAD A SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT HISTORY, INCLUDING THE INABILITY OF THE OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION TO COME TO THE U.S. IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR.

IT SEEMS THAT SINCE THE MARCH 1973 MEETING THERE HAS BEEN SOME DIVERGENCE OF INTERESTS AND EXPECTATIONS ON THE SYMPOSIUM. THEREFORE, WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR TWO SIDES ARE PROPERLY COORDINATED SO THAT THE SYMPOSIUM IS OF MAXIMUM BENEFIT. ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE ASKED DR. MOUNT TO WRITE TO DR. BUTORIN, OUTLINING OUR INTERESTS AND ASKING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HIS VIEWS. IN VIEW OF THE COORDINATION TIME REQUIRED, OTHER EPA COMMITMENTS, AND RESCHEDULING PROBLEMS, IT WILL PROBABLY BE LATE SUMMER OF EARLY FALL BEFORE THE SYMPOSIUM CAN BE RESCHEDULED. DR. BUTORIN MAY EXPECT TO HEAR FROM DR. MOUNT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. SINCERELY YOURS, JOHN

L. BUCKLEY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR PROGRAM INTEGRATION" KISSINGER

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